

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

- 1           1.       (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2           a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel  
3       ~~extending that protrudes~~ from the housing, said channel having a first surface that is  
4       substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact surface, said channel  
5       having a second surface substantially orthogonal to the first surface; and  
6           a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing  
7       surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the  
8       source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and ~~said~~ the first and second  
9       surfaces of the channel form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be  
10       scanned.
- 1           2.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a portion of  
2       the vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit  
3       scanning of a source document in ~~an~~ a vertical position.
- 1           3.       (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a front panel  
2       of the housing includes an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1           4.       (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap  
2       includes an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
- 1           5.       (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap includes a slot.

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1           6.       (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the source-  
2 backing surface of the flap includes a clip arranged to receive a portion of a source  
3 document to be scanned.

1           7.       (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the housing further  
2 comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the channel when an operator  
3 closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially vertical surface of the  
4 housing.

1           8.       (Original) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the platen has an upper  
2 edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front panel of  
3 the housing and a distal edge and wherein the channel is adjacent to the lower edge of  
4 the platen.

1           9.       (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the channel  
2 has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that extends at  
3 least to ~~the distal~~ an edge of the platen.

1           10.      (Original) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is coupled to the  
2 housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially separated detent  
3 positions.

1           11.      (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the  
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1           12.      (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on  
3 the channel wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a portion of a  
4 platen.

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1           13.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the housing  
2 is configured to extend the channel from the vertical source-contact surface when an  
3 operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the vertical source-contact  
4 surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1           14.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the width of  
2 a first end of the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over that  
3 portion of the channel that extends beyond the platen.

1           15.   (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the channel is  
2 coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1           16.   (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2 means for housing an optical scanner; and  
3 means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of  
4 a source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the means for optically  
5 scanning without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a second  
6 edge of said source along a channel means as when the source is aligned with the  
7 means for optically scanning while received in the aperture and spatially arranged  
8 with the means for optically scanning, wherein said channel means extends protrudes  
9 from said means for housing and comprises a source retaining means substantially  
10 parallel to, and opposed from, said optical scanner and a source support means  
11 substantially orthogonal to said source retaining means.

1           17.   (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the source  
2 retaining means of said channel means extends vertically from a base of said channel  
3 means and said source support means is substantially parallel to said base of said  
4 channel means.

1           18.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means  
2 for forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

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1           19.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means  
2     for forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a housing  
3     and a second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1           20.     (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,  
2     comprising:  
3           providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a  
4     substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel ~~extending~~ protruding from  
5     the housing, the channel having a first surface that is substantially parallel to, and  
6     opposed from, said source-contact surface, the vertical source-contact surface  
7     including a transparent platen portion, wherein the channel is adjacent to a lower edge  
8     of the transparent platen portion and further comprises a second surface substantially  
9     orthogonal to the first surface; and

10           providing a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a  
11     source-backing surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the  
12     housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first  
13     and second surfaces of the channel form an aperture for receiving a source to be  
14     scanned.

1           21.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising  
2     inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the  
3     source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel such that the  
4     source is supported along a second edge by the channel.

1           22.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising  
2     spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is applied to a non-scan  
3     surface of the source and the scan surface of the source closely contacts the  
4     transparent platen portion.

1           23.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising  
2     enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

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1           24.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising  
2     spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is removed from the  
3     non-scan surface of the source.

1           25.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising  
2     removing the source from the aperture.

1           26.     (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2             a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;  
3             a channel ~~extending~~ protruding from the housing, said channel having a first  
4     surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact surface  
5     and a second surface that is substantially orthogonal to the first surface; and  
6             a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface  
7     substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-  
8     contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first and second surfaces of the  
9     channel form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned without  
10    necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1           27.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2     contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined  
3     surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1           28.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2     includes an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface arranged to  
3     increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is  
4     substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1           29.     (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2     includes a slot.

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1           30.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on  
3 said channel and wherein information to be scanned from the source document is  
4 aligned with at least a portion of a platen.

1           31.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said channel when the  
3 source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1           32.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said  
2 channel has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to a distal edge of a platen.

1           33.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-  
3 separated detent positions.

1           34.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 is configured to extend said channel from the source-contact surface when an operator  
3 adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to increase  
4 the width of the aperture.

1           35.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width  
2 of said channel at a first end of said channel proximal to a front panel of the housing  
3 increases over that portion of said channel that extends beyond a platen.

1           36.   (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said  
2 channel is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

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1           37.     (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner  
2 comprising:

3           inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a channel that  
4 protrudes from a housing, the channel having a first surface that is substantially  
5 parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner such that a surface of the source  
6 having information thereon that is desired to be imaged by the scanner is adjacent to a  
7 sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane and such that said leading edge is  
8 supported by a base surface of said channel, said base surface extending adjacent to an  
9 edge of said platen; and

10          adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned  
11 with the sensor.

1           38.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising:  
2           inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with  
3 the platen of the scanner; and  
4           enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1           39.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:  
2           removing the plug; and  
3           removing the source from the aperture.

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